

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**  
 Produced through OCLC  
 OCLC 08A (10-91)  
 OCLC 0651-0031

Under the Paperwork Reduction Project 995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

Of

1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number 09/972,575

Filing Date	October 5, 2001
-------------	-----------------

First Named Inventor: Joseph C. Walsh, et al.

Art Unit 3727

Examiner Name	Unknown
---------------	---------

Attorney Docket Number PP 5-78(a) CVL

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**[illegible]

**Examiner  
Signature**

Tinkler

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Considered**

11-03-502

\*EXAMINER: Initial in Remarks considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

#3  
2-12-02

U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
JAN 17 2002

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/972,575
		Filing Date	October 5, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Joseph C. Walsh et al.
		Art Unit	3727
		Examiner Name	Unknown
		Attorney Docket Number	PP 5.78(a) CVL
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
T.H.		US-2,010,863	08-13-1935	P. Johnson	
T.H.		US-3,484,034	12-16-1969	M. M. Sternau	
T.H.		US-5,141,150	08-25-1992	Plaessmann	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

RECEIVED  
FEB -14 2002  
16300 MAIL ROOM

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	-Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			

Examiner Signature	T.H.	Date Considered	11-13-02
--------------------	------	-----------------	----------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.  
<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.  
 Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY